

I keep reading the UPLC claim "there has been no interference reported in any of the field trials by its members."

I feel this is not a fair statement because of the following:

1. The nature of people is not to make an effort to do anything they don't have to.
2. The Nature of hams is to just move to another frequency, where there is less interference. But, this might not be an option, if he or she needs to aid in a disaster net, on that frequency.
3. Also, the nature of hams is to look for the problem and gather information on it, before reporting it. This may not be possible for intermittent or short-term noise.
4. No information was given out to the public as to how and who to report problems to. I keep reading on newsgroups where hams want to report problems or get involved and don't know how to.
5. History of some power companies to delay or ignore fixing the problems, so why report another problem.
6. Many power companies don't want to spread the word they are having problems. The Naval Postgraduate School reported that the main source of radio noise, to the Navy HF, VHF, and UHF receiver sites, is from power distribution lines.
7. ARRL has offered to assist in checking for problems for the licensed users side, but the companies were scared to accept their offer.
8. Denial of interference reports is just a lie. Ed Hare, W1RFI, has personally turned in many.

When I first became a ham, one of the first things I learned was to keep a feed line from radiating you must match and balance the load on that line. Due to the nature of the power line, with changing loads on individual legs of this line, this is impossible. So we are bound to get large amounts of the signal energy radiated. Add to this the deteriorating condition of some lines, as being exposed from the Aug. 14 blackout investigation, just amplifies this problems.

This, 2 to 30 MHz., Band is a bad band to allow any interference on, due to the propagation of the signals. A single low-level noise source is not too bad overall, but thousands could become an international noise problem on these frequencies. I understand, from an E-Mail, that Yoshio Utsumi, Secretary-General of the ITU is keeping an eye open on this possible problem. If the ITU has to step in, the U. S. will have already gotten the black eye, in the world's view, and the power companies will have spent many dollars, that could have been better spent on improving their power distribution system.

Interference is a two way street. I don't believe the system can use close frequencies near transmitters using the same bands. Many of these transmitters will induce signals in the lines that will totally wipe out the BPL signals. While the power companies might be able to choose select frequencies away from fixed stations, like a U. S. Coast Guard stations, hams and some other HF mobile transmitters can be anywhere.

I understand the FCC is trying to press the broadband technology, but I feel this is a badly flawed system, which would better be

handled by more efficient broadband carrier, like telephone and cable lines, where better line control, loading, and isolation can be had. I don't feel we are forced into using the power lines. Based on the power companies' profit, expansion would not be in areas that would spread the service to new areas. Their push would be in high-density areas where services already exist.